THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL
No. 1271 Session of 2018

INTRODUCED BY HUGHES, BROWNE, STREET, TARTAGLIONE, FONTANA, SCHWANK, COSTA, BLAKE, RAFFERTY AND FARNESE, OCTOBER 2, 2018

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, OCTOBER 2, 2018

AN ACT

Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An act relating to the public school system, including certain provisions applicable as well to private and parochial schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," in school directors, further providing for school director training programs; in certification of teachers, further providing for continuing professional development, providing for trauma-informed education and further providing for postbaccalaureate certification and Pennsylvania School Leadership Standards; in school safety and security, further providing for school safety and security coordinator and for school safety and security training; in early learning programs, further providing for definitions and for duties of department; and, in the State Board of Education, further providing for definitions, for powers and duties of the board and for powers and duties of Council of Basic Education and Council of Higher Education.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Section 328(a)(1), (2), (b)(1) and (2) of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, added November 6, 2017 (P.L.1142, No.55), are amended to read:

Section 328. School Director Training Programs.--(a) Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year and in each school year
thereafter, the following shall apply:

(1) Each newly elected or appointed school director shall complete, during the first year of the school director's first term, a training program made available by the Department of Education, in consultation with a Statewide organization representing school directors and a Statewide organization representing school business officials, pertaining to the skills and knowledge necessary to serve as a school director. The training program shall consist of a minimum of [four (4)] five hours of instruction, including, at a minimum, information regarding the following:

   (i) Instruction and academic programs.

   (i.1) A minimum of one (1) hour of instruction shall focus on best practices related to trauma-informed approaches to education as defined in section 1205.7(b).

   (ii) Personnel.

   (iii) Fiscal management.

   (iv) Operations.

   (v) Governance.

   (vi) Ethics and open meetings, to include the requirements under 65 Pa.C.S. Pt. II (relating to accountability).

(2) Within one (1) year after each reelection or reappointment to the board of school directors, each school director shall complete an advanced training program made available by the Department of Education in consultation with a Statewide organization representing school directors and a Statewide organization representing school business officials. The advanced training program shall consist of a minimum of [two (2)] three hours of instruction, including information on relevant changes to Federal and State public school law and 20180SB1271PN2066.
regulations, fiscal management, *trauma-informed approaches to education* and other information deemed appropriate by the Department of Education to enable the school director to serve effectively.

* * *

(b) Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, and in each school year thereafter, the following shall apply:

(1) Each newly appointed trustee of a charter school entity shall complete, within the trustee's first year of service, a training program made available by the Department of Education, in consultation with Statewide organizations representing charter school entities, pertaining to the skills and knowledge necessary to serve as a charter school entity trustee. The training program shall consist of a minimum of [four (4)] **five** hours of instruction, including, at a minimum, the information listed in subsection (a)(1) and information concerning Article XVII-A.

(2) During the fifth year of a trustee's service on the board of trustees and every four (4) years thereafter, each trustee shall complete an advanced training program made available by the Department of Education in consultation with Statewide organizations representing charter school entities. The advanced training program shall consist of a minimum of [two (2)] **three** (3) hours of instruction, including information on relevant changes to Federal and State public school law and regulations, including Article XVII-A, fiscal management, *trauma-informed approaches to education* and other information deemed appropriate by the Department of Education to enable the trustee to serve effectively.

* * *
Section 2. Section 1205.1 of the act is amended by adding a subsection to read:

Section 1205.1. Continuing Professional Development.--** **
(b.1) The professional education plan of each school entity shall include a minimum of one (1) hour of required training in trauma-informed approaches to education as defined in section 1205.7(b).

** **

Section 3. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

Section 1205.7. Trauma-Informed Education.--(a) School entities shall provide school employees with training on trauma-informed approaches to education. The following apply:

(1) Training shall address, but shall not be limited to, the following topics:

(i) Recognition of the signs of trauma in students.

(ii) Best practices for trauma-informed schools and classrooms, including utilization of multi-tiered systems of support.

(iii) The school entity's policies related to trauma-informed education, which may include policies related to schoolwide positive behavior supports, restorative justice and resiliency.

(2) Training shall be evidence-based and reflect current best practices related to trauma-informed approaches to education.

(3) School employees shall complete a minimum of one (1) hour of training annually.

(4) School employees required to undergo continuing professional education under section 1205.2 or 1205.5 shall receive credit toward their continuing professional education.
requirements if the training program has been approved by the
Department of Education.

(5) The school entity shall make a reasonable effort to
facilitate a time and location for school employes under this
section to participate in the training during paid working hours
or in-service training.

(b) As used in this section, the following words and phrases
shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection:

"Evidence-based" shall have the meaning given in section
8101(21) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (Public Law 114-95,
129 Stat. 1802).

"School employe" shall have the meaning given in section
1101(1).

"School entity" shall mean a public school, including a
school district, charter school, cyber charter school, multiple
charter school organizations, regional charter school,
intermediate unit or area vocational-technical school, a private
school or a nonpublic school.

"Trauma" shall include results from an event, series of
events or set of circumstances that is experienced by an
individual as physically or emotionally harmful or threatening
and that has lasting adverse effects on the individual's
functioning and physical, social, emotional or spiritual well-
being.

"Trauma-informed approach" shall mean an approach to
education that recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in
students, families and staff and responds by fully integrating
knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures and practices
for the purposes of recognizing the presence and onset of
trauma, resisting the reoccurrence of trauma and promoting
Section 4. Section 1207.1(a)(3)(i) of the act is amended by adding a clause to read:

Section 1207.1. Postbaccalaureate Certification.--(a)

Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Secretary of Education shall have all of the following powers and duties with regard to postbaccalaureate certification programs:

* * *

(3) Develop guidelines for the approval of flexible postbaccalaureate instructional certification programs. Such program guidelines shall address:

(i) Instruction and training in the following:

* * *

(H) Trauma-informed approaches to education as defined in section 1205.7(b).

* * *

Section 5. Section 1217(a)(1) of the act is amended by adding a subparagraph to read:

Section 1217. Pennsylvania School Leadership Standards.--(a)

Programs provided under section 1205.5(c) and (d) to prepare school or system leaders and for purposes of issuing administrator certificates or letters of eligibility and approved programs for the induction and continuing professional education of school or system leaders shall address:

(1) The following core standards:

* * *

(iv) Understanding the impact of trauma on a child's educational experience and applying trauma-informed approaches to education to inform decision-making at all levels of the
Section 6. Section 1309-B(c)(2) and 1310-B(1) of the act, added June 22, 2018 (P.L.327, No.44), are amended to read:

Section 1309-B. School safety and security coordinator.

(c) Specific duties.--The school safety and security coordinator shall:

(2) Coordinate training and resources for students and school entity staff in matters relating to situational awareness, trauma-informed [education awareness,] approaches to educational awareness as defined in section 1205.7(b), behavioral health awareness, suicide and bullying awareness, substance abuse awareness and emergency procedures and training drills, including fire, natural disaster, active shooter, hostage situation and bomb threat.

Section 1310-B. School safety and security training.

School entities shall provide their employees with mandatory training on school safety and security subject to the following:

(1) Training shall address the following:

(i) Situational awareness.

(ii) Trauma-informed [education awareness,] approaches to educational awareness as defined in section 1205.7(b).

(iii) Behavioral health awareness.

(iv) Suicide and bullying awareness.

(v) Substance use awareness.

(vi) Emergency training drills, including fire,
natural disaster, active shooter, hostage situation and bomb threat.

* * *

Section 7. Section 1511-D of the act is amended by adding a definition to read:

Section 1511-D. Definitions.
The following words and phrases when used in this subarticle shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

* * *

"Trauma-informed approach." As defined in section 1205.7(b).

Section 8. Section 1513-D of the act is amended by adding a paragraph to read:

Section 1513-D. Duties of department.
The department shall have the following powers and duties:

* * *

(8) To encourage the integration of trauma-informed approaches to education as defined in section 1205.7(b) into the program curriculum and the professional development of personnel of the eligible provider who have regular contact with children.

Section 9. Sections 2601-B and 2603-B(d) of the act are amended by adding clauses to read:

Section 2601-B. Definitions.--When used in this article the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

* * *

(3) "Trauma-informed approach" shall have the same definition as under section 1205.7(b).

Section 2603-B. Powers and Duties of the Board.--* * *

(d) The board shall also have the authority and duty to:
(9.1) Adopt policies encouraging the inclusion of trauma-informed approaches to education, as defined in section 1205.7(b), in the curriculum of programs of professional education in all public and private institutions of higher education in this Commonwealth issuing degrees to persons who may desire to teach in the schools of this Commonwealth.

Section 10. Section 2604-B(b)(2)(vii) and (viii) are amended and subsection (b)(2) is amended by adding a subclause to read:

Section 2604-B. Powers and Duties of Council of Basic Education and Council of Higher Education.—*

(b) The Council of Basic Education shall have the power, and its duty shall be to:

* * *

(2) investigate programs, conduct research studies and formulate policy proposals in all educational areas not within the purview of higher education, including, but not limited to:

* * *

(vii) the subjects to be taught and the activities to be conducted in elementary, secondary, adult education and other schools; [and]

(viii) the qualifications for employment of professional personnel in the public schools; and

(ix) the education and training of children impacted by trauma as defined in section 1205.7;

* * *

Section 11. This act shall take effect in 60 days.